



Department of Justice

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FORMER CHILD CARE AIDE RECEIVES 91 MONTH SENTENCE FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

COLUMBUS – Jonathan Brown, age 33, of Columbus was sentenced in United States District Court here today to 91 months imprisonment for possessing almost 2,000 images and more than 12 hours of videos of pornography involving children.

Brown's sentence includes five years of supervised release after his prison term and registration as a sexual offender wherever he lives after his prison sentence ends.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Brian Moskowitz, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), announced the sentence handed down today by United States District Judge Gregory L. Frost.

In June, 2007, Canadian Customs Officers arrested Brown after they found pornographic images on a computer he was carrying when he crossed from the U.S. into Canada. Canadian officials contacted ICE agents who searched Brown's north Columbus apartment and seized his computer and peripheral equipment.

Agents also seized still photos and photo albums of clothed eight- to 11-year old boys including some taken at a residential camp in upstate New York where Brown worked as a counselor prior to coming to Ohio in 2002. Other photos were taken at public events of what appeared to be strangers to Brown. The information found on Brown's computer also led to the arrest and prosecution of a man who was a child abuser and purveyor of child pornography in Canada.

Brown pleaded guilty in Canada and after serving his sentence, was deported to the United States and immediately taken into custody by ICE agents. Prior to his arrest in 2007, Brown was employed by the Liberty Township/Powell YMCA and worked in the Olentangy Local Schools latchkey program.

"Possession of child pornography by someone involved in organizations where he is in close contact with children is a very disturbing crime," Lockhart said. "We want to guard our children's safety as much as possible by prosecuting those who commit such crimes."

“Mr. Brown was brought to justice through the cooperative efforts of ICE and our colleagues from the Canada Border Services Agency” said Moskowitz who supervises the ICE Office of Investigations for Ohio and Michigan. “ICE will continue to work in conjunction with our international partners and the U.S. Attorney's Office to protect our communities from those who exploit the most vulnerable among us.”

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

Lockhart commended the investigation by ICE agents and Assistant U.S. Attorney Deborah A. Solove, who prosecuted the case.

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